

HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT[441]

Adopted and Filed

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code section 234.6(4), the Department of Human Services amends Chapter 65, "Food Assistance Program Administration," Iowa Administrative Code.

These amendments reflect approval of an extension of a demonstration project by the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) to allow for a standard medical expense deduction to Food Assistance households eligible to claim medical expenses as a deduction. To attain cost neutrality as necessary, the calculation of the standard utility allowances for both households with heating or air-conditioning expenses and households with only other utility expenses is amended. Originally, a \$4 decrease to each standard utility allowance (SUA) was necessary. With more households choosing the standard utility allowance, Iowa must account for greater savings. Decreasing the SUAs by an additional dollar is a condition of approval for the extension.

These amendments ensure that the Department is compliant with the terms of the extension approval. With increasing numbers of households using the standard medical deduction, the additional savings resulting from lower SUA amounts is necessary to achieve the required cost neutrality.

Notice of Intended Action was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin as **ARC 0916C** on August 7, 2013. The Department received no comments during the comment period. These amendments are identical to those published under Notice of Intended Action.

The Council on Human Services adopted these amendments on October 9, 2013.

These amendments do not provide for waivers in specified situations because requests for the waiver of any rule may be submitted under the Department's general rule on exceptions at 441—1.8(17A,217).

After analysis and review of this rule making, no impact on jobs has been found.

These amendments are intended to implement Iowa Code section 234.12.

These amendments will become effective on January 1, 2014.

The following amendments are adopted.

ITEM 1. Amend paragraph **65.8(1)“b”** as follows:

b. Effective October 1, ~~2007~~ 2013, ~~two~~ five dollars will be subtracted from this amount to allow for cost neutrality necessary for the standard medical expense deduction. ~~Effective October 1, 2008, an additional two dollars, for a total of four dollars, will be subtracted from this amount to achieve continued cost neutrality.~~

ITEM 2. Amend paragraph **65.8(5)“b”** as follows:

b. Effective October 1, ~~2007~~ 2013, ~~two~~ five dollars will be subtracted from this amount to allow for cost neutrality necessary for the standard medical expense deduction. ~~Effective October 1, 2008, an additional two dollars, for a total of four dollars, will be subtracted from this amount to achieve continued cost neutrality.~~

[Filed 10/10/13, effective 1/1/14]

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EDITOR'S NOTE: For replacement pages for IAC, see IAC Supplement 10/30/13.